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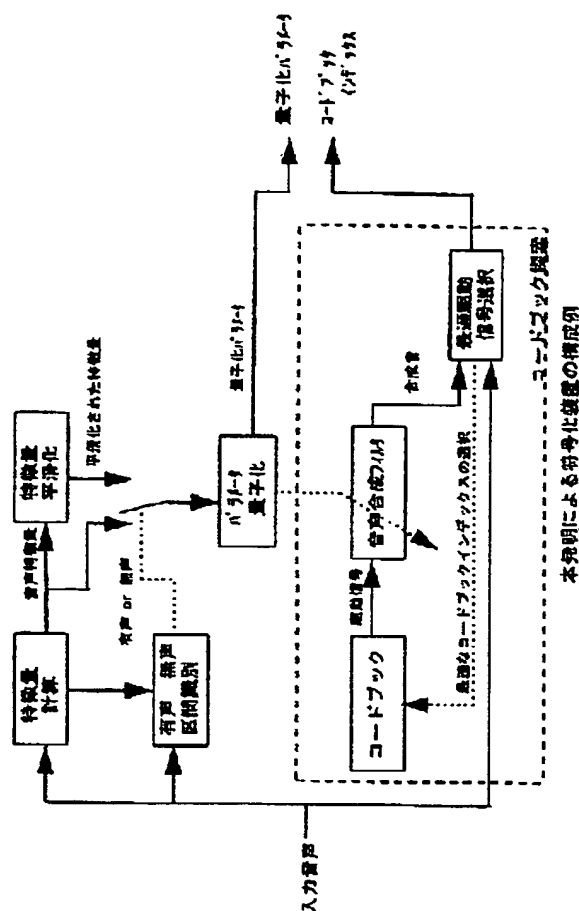
APPLICATION NUMBER : 08046191

APPLICANT : KOBE STEEL LTD:

INVENTOR : HIEKATA TAKAYUKI:

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TITLE : VOICE CODING DEVICE AND  
DECODING DEVICE



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To make an unpleasant sound based on a background noise not to be generated by smoothing the fluctuation of voice featured values only in a voiceless section timewise or by performing a stronger smoothing in the voiceless section than in a voice section.

**SOLUTION:** In a voice coding device, various parameters becoming featured values of a voice are calculated in a featured value calculating part from an inputted voice signal. Next, whether the input signal is the voice section including the voice or the voiceless section of only a background noise at this point in time is judged based on the featured values in a voice/voiceless section discriminating part. When the input signal is judged to be the voiceless section, the fluctuation of the calculated featured values is suppressed in a featured value smoothing part. Conversely, when the input signal is judged to be the voice section, the calculated values are used as they are without performing the smoothing of the featured values. Then, the featured values are quantized in a parameter quantizing part. Moreover, when the voice is inputted, optimum indexes for reproducing a sound near to an original sound are retrieved by retrieving code book part in an optimum driving signal selecting part.

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